THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c) As per information available, the backlog of reserved vacancies for orthopaedically handicapped reported by various Ministries/Public Undertakings and Banks etc. as on 01-01-1991 is 375 for Group C and 337 for Group D posts. The vacancies in the posts/services are filled up by Ministries/Departments and Banks etc. by notifying the vacancies to the Employment Exchanges and Vocational Rehabilitation Centres for Physically handicapped. These vacancies are also filled up by open competition conducted by staff Selection Commission, Banking Recruitment Boards, Railway Recruitment Boards etc. and through advertisements inserted by various Govt. employing agencies in leading newspapers. The filling up of vacancies is a continuing process.

Validity of caste certificate

4359. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR:

SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the caste certificate issued by one State is valid in other States for the same case;

(b) what are the details in this regard; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to ensure the acceptance of caste certificate in all other States?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) As required under Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution. Presidential Orders have been issued specifying Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in relation to a particular State/Union Territory only.

Atrocities on SC/ST

4360. SHRI M. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will he Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that atrocities on Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes are on the increase;

(b) if so, the number of cases of atrocities on Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes people registered, tried and the number of those convicted during the last three years; till date;

(c) the steps taken to curb such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) The total number of crimes committed against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the country during 1989, 1990, 1991 and 1992 are given below:—

Year	Crimes against	
	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
1989 . . .	15799	3623
1990 . . .	17737	3572
1991 . . .	17566	3405
1992 . . .	194£	69£

£so far reported.

The details about the number of cases tried and the number of those convicted during the said years are being collected from States and U.Ts. and would be laid on the table of the House.

(c) There are detailed guidelines issued to the States and U.Ts. suggesting various precautionary, preventive, punitive, rehabilitative and personnel policy measures to prevent crimes against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 has been enacted. The Act provides